

HITCHIN RURAL DISTRICT.

Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1918.

The year 1918 was a trying and difficult year as the following statistics will show, and we hope that the experience will never be repeated.

Statistics:

The Population on which to estimate the Birth-Rate is 24932.

The Population on which to estimate the Death-Rate is 22251.

There were three hundred and ninety-nine births giving a rate of sixteen as compared with a rate of 17.9 for England and Wales.

There were two hundred and eighty-nine deaths giving a rate of 12.9 as compared with a rate of 17.9 for England and Wales.

There were twenty-three deaths of infants giving a rate of 57.6 as compared with a rate of 97 for England and Wales. Of these deaths thirteen may be put down to congenital causes and ten to catarrhal causes. This was largely due to the prevalence of influenza.

Two hundred and twenty boys and one hundred and seventy-nine girls were born giving forty-one more boys than girls.

There were twenty-three illegitimate births.

INFLUENZA: The prevalence of a severe epidemic of Influenza was the notable feature of the year. The disease was present sporadically throughout the year but two epidemic waves, of greatest extent in July and in November occurred. In Letchworth the disease was very wide-spread at both periods but there was distinct evidence of immunity in November in those who had been attacked in July. The Belgian population were chiefly victims in July and fairly free in November, and there were 245 cases among the boys at the R.A.F. Depot in July and only three in November. There were about 400 at the Depot.

There were seventy-nine deaths from influenza and pneumonia during the year of which thirty-eight were males and forty-one females. There were nine deaths from other infectious diseases including three from cerebro-spinal fever.

I remain,

Your obedient servant.

(Signed:)

Norman Macfadyen.

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Statistics:

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The Population on which to estimate the Death-Rate is 22251.

There were three hundred and ninety-nine births giving a rate of

sixteen as compared with a rate of 17.9 for England and Wales.

There were two hundred and eighty-nine deaths giving a rate of 12.9

as compared with a rate of 17.9 for England and Wales.

There were twenty-three deaths of infants giving a rate of 57.6 as

compared with a rate of 97 for England and Wales. Of these deaths

thirteen may be put down to congenital causes and ten to catarrhal causes.

This was largely due to the prevalence of influenza.

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attacked in July. The Belgian population were chiefly victims in July and

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R.A.F. Depot in July and only three in November. There were about 400 at

the Depot.

There were seventy-nine deaths from influenza and pneumonia during the

year of which thirty-eight were males and forty-one females. There were

nine deaths from other infectious diseases including three from cerebro-

spinal fever.

I remain,
Your obedient servant,
(Signed) Wm. H. H. H.

MELBOURN RURAL DISTRICT.

Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1918.

Vital Statistics:

The Population on which to estimate the Birth-Rate is 8491.

The Population on which to estimate the Death-Rate is 7578.

There were one hundred and thirty-three births giving a rate of 15.6 as compared with a rate of 17.7 for England and Wales.

There were one hundred and twelve deaths giving a rate of 14.7 as compared with a rate of 17.9 for England and Wales.

There were seven infantile deaths giving a rate of 52.6 per thousand and births as compared with a rate of 97 for England and Wales.

There were thirteen illegitimate births.

The noticeable feature of the year was the epidemic of influenza which occurred in a severe form, with the result that seventeen deaths from influenza and pneumonia occurred during the year.

The work of Sanitary Inspection was carried on under difficult circumstances by Mr. Webb and fortunately Mr. Stock has now returned to relieve the pressure.

I remain,

Your Obedient servant,

(signed) N. MACFADYEN.

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circumstances by Mr. Webb and fortunately Mr. Stock has now

returned to relieve the pressure.

INFLUENZA: The prevalence of influenza was the notable

feature of the year. The disease was considerably throughout the

year but two epidemic waves, one in October and one in November

occurred. In December the disease was very widespread at both periods

but there was distinct evidence of intensity in those who had been

attacked in July. The Belgian population were chiefly attacked in July and

Latin in November, and there were 245 cases among the boys at the

R.A.F. Depot in July and only three in November. There were about 400 at

the Depot.

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year of which thirty-eight were males and forty-one females. There were

nine deaths from other infectious diseases including three from cerebro-

spinal fever.

I remain,

Yours faithfully,

W. MacFadyen.

ASEWELL RURAL DISTRICT.

Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1918.

Vital Statistics.

The Population on which to estimate the birth-Rate is 3787.7.

The Population on which to estimate the Death-Rate is 3.384.

There were Fifty-four births giving a rate of 14.2 as compared with a rate of 17.7 For England and Wales.

There were fifty-one deaths giving a rate of 15.6 as compared with a rate of 17.9 for England and Wales.

There were two Infant deaths giving a rate of 37 per thousand births as compared with a rate of 97 for England and Wales.

There were four illegitimate births.

Unfortunately the influenza epidemic seriously attacked some of the villages and fourteen deaths from influenza and pneumonia have to be recorded for the year.

The work during the year has been carried on under trying conditions and it is to be hoped these conditions will never recur.

I remain,

Your obedient servant,

(signed) N. MACFADYEN.

Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1918.

Vital Statistics.

The Population on which to estimate the birth-rate is 2787.

The Population on which to estimate the death-rate is 2784.

There were fifty-four births giving a rate of 14.2 as compared with a rate of 17.7 for England and Wales.

There were fifty-one deaths giving a rate of 18. as compared with a rate of 17.9 for England and Wales.

There were two infant deaths giving a rate of 87 per thousand births as compared with a rate of 97 for England and Wales.

There were four illegitimate births.

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conditions and it is to be hoped these conditions will never recur.

I remain,

Your obedient servant,

(signed) W. MACFADYEN.

ROYSTON URBAN DISTRICT.

Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1918.

Vital Statistics:

The Population on which to estimate the Birth-Rate is 3897.

The Population on which to estimate the Death-Rate is 3478..

There were forty-two births giving a rate of 10.7 as compared with a rate of 17.7 for England and Wales.

There were forty-four deaths giving a rate of 12.6 as compared with a rate of 17.9 for England and Wales.

There was one infant death giving a rate of 23.8 as compared with a rate of 97 for England and Wales.

There was one illegitimate birth.

The infantile death-rate of 23.8 is very good but it will be seen that there were more deaths than births in the town and the birth rate was low.

There was a considerable number of cases of measles and influenza in the town during the year but only one death from measles and six deaths from influenza and pneumonia occurred.

The year has been a very difficult one for every one and the results not altogether ^{un}satisfactory.

I remain,

Your obedient servant,

)signed) N. MACFADYEN.

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